

1975 YEARLY STATISTICAL REPORT
OF THE
FURLOUGH PROGRAM

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The furlough program for residents of Massachusetts Correctional facilities has been extensively implemented since the program commenced operation in November of 1972. Between that time and the end of 1975, the Massachusetts Department of Correction has allowed a total of 25,229 furloughs. In 354 cases, residents have failed to return to their respective correctional facility within two hours of their prescribed time of return, resulting in a 1.4% escape rate.

If furlough statistics are analyzed on a yearly basis (see Table I), it can be seen that the furlough escape rate declined during 1974 as compared to the previous year. In 1975 the escape rate fell to 1.0% compared to 1.5% in 1974. It should also be noted that from 1974 to 1975 the total number of furloughs granted increased slightly. During 1975 therefore the Department of Correction successfully managed to increase the number of furlough with a corresponding decrease in the number of escapes.

A breakdown of yearly escape rates by institution indicates that seven correctional facilities have experienced diminished escape rates. As can be seen in Table 1, MCI's Walpole, Norfolk, Concord, Monroe and Shirley Pre-Release Center have lower escape rates in 1974 than in the previous year.

Several facilities, however, witnessed an increase in escape rates in 1975 despite the fact that the number of furloughs granted was reduced. These facilities specifically include MCI-Bridgewater and Plymouth.

During 1975, the monthly escape rates fluctuated widely. The low for the year was 0.5% in November and the high was 1.6% in October. The monthly average consisted of 706 furloughs per month and 7 escapes. (see Table 2).

During the course of a month an average of 450 individual residents were furloughed, or 20.8% of the total resident population. (see Table 3).

¹ The Department of Correction furlough statistics define an "escape from furlough" in accordance with Departmental Order 4670.1 entitled "Furloughs - Rules and Regulations". According to Section 10.4 (c): "Failure of the resident to return to the correctional facility after the two hour period set forth in Section 10.4 (b) shall be considered an escape regardless of prior notification to the facility by the resident that he would be late. The superintendent or his designee shall notify, forthwith, appropriate law enforcement officials of the escape".

TABLE 1
YEARLY FURLOUGH STATISTICS

Institution	1973			1974			1975		
	Furloughs	Escapes	Rate	Furloughs	Escapes	Rate	Furloughs	Escapes	Rate
MCI Bridgewater	244	13	5.3	283	4	1.4	194	6	3.1
MCI Concord	1254	44	3.5	923	39	4.2	811	27	3.3
MCI Framingham	502	9	1.6	741	7	0.9	797	7	0.9
MCI Norfolk	1811	39	2.2	1466	32	2.2	1200	13	1.1
MCI Walpole	107	4	3.7	310	7	2.3	335	5	1.5
Shirley Pre-Release	709	6	0.8	494	12	2.4	714	9	1.3
Boston State Pre-Release	1333	8	0.6	2063	6	0.3	1755	6	0.3
Charlotte House	61	0	0.0	85	2	2.3	83	0	0.0
Rox. Community Rehab. Center	0	0	0.0	130	0	0.0	443	0	0.0
MCI Monroe	342	2	0.6	305	7	2.2	271	5	1.8
MCI Plymouth	451	5	1.1	416	4	1.0	499	8	1.6
MCI Warwick	322	4	1.2	209	6	2.9	55	1	1.8
Brooke House	0	0	0.0	422	0	0.0	509	0	0.0
Coclidge House	0	0	0.0	471	1	0.0	668	0	0.0
Temporary Housing	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	1	0	0.0
Reception Diagnostic Ctr.	0	0	0.0	4	0	0.0	2	0	0.0
699 House	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	132	0	0.0
Norfolk Pre-Release	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	96	1	1.0
TOTAL	7,196	134	1.9	8,324	127	1.5	8,565	88	1.0

TABLE 2

ESCAPE RATES BY MONTH

1975

<u>Month</u>	<u>Furloughs</u>	<u>No. of Escapes</u>	<u>Escape Rate</u>
January	487	6	1.2
February	555	5	0.9
March	683	8	1.2
April	651	4	0.6
May	731	10	1.4
June	573	7	1.2
July	676	7	1.0
August	850	8	0.9
September	622	7	1.1
October	639	10	1.6
November	1,007	5	0.5
December	997	6	0.6
MONTHLY AVERAGE	706	7	1.0

TABLE 3

NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS FURLOUGHED
MONTHLY IN PROPORTION TO TOTAL POPULATION

1975

<u>INSTITUTION</u>	<u>AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION</u>	<u>AVERAGE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS FURLOUGHED PER MONTH</u>	<u>PROPORTION TO POPULATION</u>
MCI Walpole	537	25	4.7
MCI Concord	407	60	14.7
MCI Bridgewater	128	15	11.7
MCI Norfolk	619	91	14.7
MCI Framingham	132	53	40.2
MCI Warwick	11	6	54.5
MCI Monroe	37	19	51.4
MCI Plymouth	46	31	67.4
Boston State Pre- Release Center	48	43	89.6
Shirley Pre-Release	56	43	76.8
Charlotte House	9	5	55.6
Brooke House	10	9	90.0
Coolidge House	11	11	100.0
Roxbury Multi-Service Center	16	10	62.5
Reception Diagnostic Center	42	0	0.0
Norfolk Pre-Release	17	12	70.6
699 House	7	6	85.7
Drug Treatment Program	11	0	0.0
THP/BOSP	16	11	68.8
TOTAL	2,160	450	20.8

MCI-CONCORD

In 1975, MCI-Concord granted a total of 811 furloughs. Of these furloughs, 27 resulted in a failure to return at the designated time, yielding an escape rate of 3.3%. It is interesting to note that in 1975, MCI-Concord decreased the number of furloughs (811) compared to the previous year (923). A lower number of escapes ensued, resulting in a lowered escape rate in 1975 of 3.3%.

During the course of a month, an average of 60 individual residents were furloughed, or 14.7% of the total resident population.

MCI-WALPOLE

MCI-Walpole granted a total of 335 furloughs in 1975; five individuals failed to return at the required time resulting in a 1.5% escape rate. A comparison of these statistics with those of the previous year indicates that MCI-Walpole has continued to expand the program while simultaneously reducing the escape rate. In 1974 310 furloughs were granted with a resulting 2.3% escape rate and in 1973, only 108 furloughs were granted with a 3.7% escape rate. This maximum security institution, however, continues to furlough only a small proportion of its total population. On a monthly basis, an average of 25 residents, or 4.7% of its total population receive furloughs.

MCI-BRIDGewater

A total of 194 furloughs were granted to the prisoner population at MCI-Bridgewater during 1975. Six individuals did not return at the required time; therefore the 1975 escape rate is 3.1%. This rate is somewhat higher than the previous year's rate of 1.4% despite the fact that a lower number of furloughs were granted in 1975.

During 1975, an average of 15 residents were furloughed each month, representing 11.7% of the total prisoner population.

MCI-NORFOLK

The 1975 escape rate for MCI-Norfolk was 1.1%, i.e., 1,200 furloughs and 13 escapes. This rate is lower than the previous year's rate of 2.2%. It is important to mention that the total number of furlough granted was lower in 1975 than in 1974.

On the average, 91 individuals were furloughed each month, a figure which represents 14.7% of the total population.

MCI-FRAMINGHAM

In 1975, MCI-Framingham granted a total of 797 furloughs; seven residents failed to return on time, yielding an escape rate of 0.9%. Because MCI-Framingham houses many residents on pre-release status, i.e., they are participating in work or educational release programming, this facility makes extensive use of the furlough program. As a result, an average of 53 individual women and men, or 40.2% of the total population, are furloughed each month.

FORESTRY

The three forestry camps, MCI's Monroe, Plymouth and Warwick, granted a combined total of 825 furloughs in 1975. During that year, 14 residents failed to return to their camp at the proper time, resulting in an overall 1.7% escape rate.

With the exception of MCI-Plymouth, the 1975 escape rates for Forestry are lower than in 1974.

The Forestry camps are minimum security facilities which currently serve as work release centers. Consequently, the furlough program plays a substantial role in forestry camp programming. Therefore, over half 59.6% of the forestry camp population is furloughed each month on the average.

BOSTON STATE PRE-RELEASE CENTER

During 1975, Boston State Pre-Release Center granted 1,755 furloughs. Six individuals were considered escapes and the ensuing escape rate was 0.3%. The same number of residents escaped the previous year, yielding a similar escape rate.

In the course of a month, nearly all (89.6%) of the residents of Boston State received furloughs. Because the primary purpose of pre-release centers is to prepare residents for release to the community, the furlough program is an integral and necessary component of pre-release programming and is therefore available to the entire population.

SHIRLEY PRE-RELEASE CENTER

Shirley Pre-Release Center furlough statistics for 1975 were 714 furloughs, and 9 escapes. The escape rate of 1.3% is significantly lower than the 2.4% escape rate of 1974. In addition, more furloughs were granted in 1974, 714 compared to 1974's 494 furloughs.

In an average month, 43 individual residents at Shirley were furloughed. This number constitutes 76.8% of the total average population.

NORFOLK PRE-RELEASE

Norfolk Pre-Release Center was opened in August, 1975 and has granted 96 furloughs in 1975 with one escape, for a 1.0% escape rate.

On the average, 12 residents or 70.6% of the total population is furloughed monthly.

PRE-RELEASE CONTRACT FACILITIES

Pre-Release contract facilities consist of Charlotte House, Brooke House, Coolidge House, Roxbury Community Release Center, 699 House and Temporary Housing Project. In 1975 they granted a combined total of 1,836 furloughs. All furloughs were successful.

RECEPTION DIAGNOSTIC CENTER

The Reception Diagnostic Center grants only emergency escorted furloughs. It allowed two such furloughs in 1975, both of which were successful.

